

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing images in a camera, the method comprising:

acquiring a first set of image data based on a first frame of light entering the camera;
performing at least one pre-capture processing function on the first set of image data to produce a pre-capture result;
acquiring a second set of image data based on a second frame of light entering the camera;
performing at least one pre-capture processing function on a portion of the second set of image data to produce a test result and comparing the test result to the pre-capture result;
generating final image data by modifying the second set of image data.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein performing at least one pre-capture processing function comprising performing a white balance processing function to produce a white balance value as the pre-capture result.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein performing at least one pre-capture processing function comprises performing a contrast adjustment function to produce a contrast value as the pre-capture result.

4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein performing at least one pre-capture processing function comprises performing a red-eye reduction function to produce a set of red-eye compensation values as the pre-capture result.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein performing at least one pre-capture processing function comprises performing a flesh tone correction function to produce a flesh tone correction value as the pre-capture result.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving an external indication that an image should be captured before acquiring the second set of image data.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a pre-capture event before acquiring the first set of image data.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the pre-capture event is an indication that a user has pressed a capture button half-way down.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the pre-capture event is produced by a software routine.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising triggering a red-eye reduction flash before acquiring the first set of image data and triggering a main flash before acquiring the second set of image data.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising performing the pre-capture processing function on the entire second set of image data if the test result and pre-capture result are not sufficiently similar.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Amended) A camera having processor-executable components for capturing images, the components comprising:

- an image acquisition component capable of acquiring image data representing a single frame of light;
- a pre-capture processing component capable of performing a pre-capture function based on image data acquired by the image acquisition component for a first frame of light and capable of performing the pre-capture function on a portion of image data acquired by the acquisition component for a second frame of light;
- a comparison component capable of comparing the results of performing the same pre-capture function on the image data for the first frame of light and on the portion of the image data for the second frame of light; and
- an image production component capable of producing final image data by modifying the image data acquired for the second frame of light.

18. (Original) The camera of claim 17 wherein the pre-capture processing component is capable of performing a white balance function based on the image data for the first frame of light.

19. (Original) The camera of claim 17 wherein the pre-capture processing component is capable of performing a contrast function based on the image data for the first frame of light.

20. (Withdrawn) The camera of claim 17 wherein the pre-capture processing component is capable of performing a red-eye reduction function based on the image data for the first frame of light.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Amended) The camera of claim 17 wherein the comparison component causes the pre-capture processing component to perform the pre-capture function on all of the image data for the second frame of light when the results of performing the pre-capture function on a portion of the image data for the second frame of light are substantially different than the results of performing the pre-capture function on the image data for the first frame of light.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)